



Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #19 – October 31, 2002

Why is Email Important? You Get Timely Information Faster!

There are currently 811 emergency management directors in Missouri. The EMD Bulletin is hard copy mailed to almost 300 directors. Periodically, SEMA emails Emergency Managers national advisories and other important information.

Please make sure your SEMA Area Coordinator has an email address (home or business) to quickly send you important information.

Schedule Set for RPC Mitigation Planning Meetings with Officials

The 19 Regional Planning Commissions (RPC) will write hazard mitigation plans for selected counties/communities to meet FEMA Hazard Mitigation Planning requirements. Missouri has limited funding to accomplish this required federal requirement. Five criteria were used to select counties/communities in each of the 19 RPC regions. Those criteria include population, the number for Federal Disaster Declarations received, location in relation to rivers, participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and the amount of mitigation dollars spent on post-disaster projects. As additional mitigation planning funding is acquired, more communities will be included in the hazard mitigation planning process.

Elected officials and Emergency Management Directors will receive a letter from SEMA notifying them of the meeting with their RPC to explain the hazard mitigation planning criteria and federal deadlines. The letter will provide officials with the dates and locations of the November and December meetings.

Pettis County/Sedalia EMA Start Community Defense Volunteers Group

Pettis County/Sedalia EMD Tim Mosier is asking his senior citizens to become involved as Community Defense Volunteers. "A person doesn't have to run 100 yards in 10 seconds in order to keep an eye on vulnerable areas in time of terrorism," Mosier told the Sedalia Democrat. He already has 20 volunteers signed up for his first training class. "Our goal is to train 100 volunteers, provide refresher training every six months, and participate in two training exercises each year," Mosier said.

The volunteers will be trained in radio communications, modified community emergency response, observation and reporting, severe weather awareness, American Red Cross programs and bio-chemical awareness training. The volunteers will observe about 30 sites in Pettis County.

FEMA Increases the Per Capita Public Assistance Disaster Impact Indicators

At the beginning of each fiscal year, FEMA adjusts the per capita disaster impact indicators. FEMA uses these indicators as one of the factors reviewed to determine if the magnitude of a disaster warrants federal assistance. **These indicators apply to requests for Public Assistance only.** FEMA will use these new indicators starting October 1, 2002: Statewide \$1.09 per capita and County \$2.71 per capita.

Based on the population of Missouri, the joint FEMA, State, local damage assessments would need to identify a combined total of approximately \$6.1 million dollars in eligible public assistance damages in the State. This figure would apply whether one county or all 114 counties were impacted. Additionally, each affected county would need to meet the \$2.71 per capita indicator.

It is possible to receive federal disaster declarations without meeting these requirements; however, it is very difficult and the counties and State would have to clearly document extraordinary impact and the inability of the State and affected counties to recover without federal assistance.

Did You Feel the Earth Move Oct 28, 29?

The USGS conducted underground seismic testing along the New Madrid Seismic Fault (NMSF) zone on Oct. 28 in Marked Tree, AR, and on Oct. 29 in Mooring, TN. The tests involved performing small underground detonations late at night. Citizens in the area may have felt a slight rumble similar to a truck passing through the area. The experiment will enable scientists to understand how the seismic waves move through the extremely deep sand and clay layers that blanket the Mississippi Valley in the Central United States. The scientists measured the artificial earthquake waves with ten newly installed seismic stations in the Memphis area. The University of Memphis, Center for Earthquake Research and Information and the USGS held a press conference on the 29th. The press conference demonstrated how the information was recorded. As funding becomes available, scientists plan to place additional seismic stations along the fault zone, which impacts seven states. Missouri has 47 counties at risk along the NMSF zone.

St. Louis County Installs Emergency Tracking System

The Journal of EMS featured St. Louis County's new Emergency Patient Tracking System (EPTS). The system uses patient bar-code bracelets, personal digital assistant (PDA) technology, county hospital computer networking, all linked to EMS command centers. The system is designed to help the command centers and hospitals more effectively manage their resources and provide quicker patient treatment during large-scale emergencies. The bar-coding technology is similar to FedEx or UPS tracking.

The EPTS was field tested during the St. Louis County WMD exercise in May on the campus of Washington University, said Jeffrey A. Lowell, M.D., chief of St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS). By the end of this year, the MMRS project will connect EMS to 35 hospitals in eastern Missouri and western Illinois.

FEMA Announces Round 7 Fire Fighter Grants to 22 Missouri Departments

Twenty-two Missouri Fire Departments will receive grants from FEMA for Fire Operations and Safety. The departments are: St. Louis Fire Department (\$558,530), Rock Community Fire Protection District of Arnold (\$106,655), Tipton Rural Fire Protection District (\$26,820), Dolan & West Dolan Fire Protection District of Freeman (\$49,005), Lexington Fire & Rescue (\$45,972), Lotawana Fire Protection District (\$53,855), Liberty Fire Department (\$73,800), Braymer Community Fire Department (\$48,300), Meadville Fire Department (\$37,305), North Harrison Fire Protection District of Eagleville (\$44,024), Brookfield Fire Department (\$29,335), Orrick Fire Protection District (\$43,466), City of Ava Volunteer Fire Department (\$43,256), Pleasant View Fire Protection District near Springfield (\$48,465), Wheaton Fire Department (\$86,382), City of Williamsville Volunteer Fire Department (\$31,887), Clearwater Fire Protection District near Piedmont (\$58,243), Fredericktown Fire Department (\$78,300), Millersburg Fire Protection District near Fulton (\$79,479), New Bloomfield Fire Protection District (\$66,893), Shelby Community Fire Department near Shelbyville (\$48,515), and Eastern Randolph Rural Fire Department near Moberly (\$53,918).

FBI Regional Crime Database in St. Louis Lauded

U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft called the St. Louis office regional crime database "revolutionary and should be deployed nationwide." Local and state law enforcement officials can search the St. Louis area FBI database for phrases, license plate numbers, suspect names, nicknames and identifying information such as scars or tattoos. The St. Louis FBI office has made this database available on a large scale to local and state law enforcement organizations. This information was reported in the October 10 St. Louis Post Dispatch.

FEMA Budget Clears House Appropriations Committee

The House Appropriations Committee approved an appropriations bill of \$3.6 billion for FEMA. The bill does not contain funding for the first responders program as requested by the President. Additionally, the bill includes cuts to the Emergency Management Performance Account (EMPA) and would make a significant change

to the Stafford Act formula for 404 programs. Until Congress approves the budget FEMA will operate under a continuing resolution.

Here are the primary concerns about the bill:

- EMPG will be funded at the Administration's request level, which means \$116,666,540 (same as fiscal year 2002 for non-terrorism) and cuts \$16,434,000 in 100 percent federal share funds for terrorism grants (TCMPA).
- Does not fund a First Responders Program; provides increases to some existing programs. Mutual aid, emergency operations centers, and other programs are not mentioned. Further, there is a cut to the EMPA account overall (about \$150 million). EMPA account specifically funds \$30 million for Citizens Corp and \$78 million for communications interoperability. Funding will also be provided for state and local all-hazards planning.
- Funds a competitive national pre-disaster mitigation program at \$250 million and provides \$250,000 for states for planning.
- Changes the formula for the 404/Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) from 15 percent of disaster costs to 7.5 percent and calls on FEMA to develop regulations to recapture funds not spent within four years. This change would amend the Stafford Act.

Here are some highlights in the bill:

- Full Committee added language to change cost share for Emergency Operations Centers from 50/50 to 75/25.
- \$450 million as a separate account from EMPA for the Fire Fighters Grant Program.
- \$200 million for flood map modernization.

Pentagon Considers Transferring Civil Support Teams To Homeland Security

The Department of Defense (DoD) plans to ask Congress to move Civil Support Teams (CST) from Title 32 in the National Guard to Homeland Security. The states would pay for the civilians manning the teams. DoD wants to eliminate the cost for the Civil Support Teams from its budget. This action frees National Guard personnel to support the wartime mission. Ten teams were established the first year (including Missouri's team). Seventeen teams were established in the second year, and five teams were established in the third year. The Adjutants General Association opposes any change to the status quo of the CSTs. The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Board of Directors will support AGA position because states cannot absorb the cost of maintaining the CSTs nor can states provide the logistical and tactical support that DoD currently provides.

Communications Conference Set for February 14-15, 2003

SEMA will hold the 2003 Communications Conference on February 14-15, 2003 at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO. Approximately 800 packets were sent to Emergency Management Directors. Also, Ameren UE will be holding a meeting at this conference. The Ameren UE meeting will start on February 13th and conclude on the 14th. Special invitations will be sent to the twenty-two counties that are associated with the plant. SEMA will cover lunch on Friday and continental breakfast on Saturday. There is no registration fee. Contact Tan-Tar-A about room reservations before January 16, 2003. Room rate is \$71.

SEMA and Health Conduct Planning Workshop

The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) held an Emergency Planning Workshop on October 23, 2002 at SEMA to bring together their Regional Response Planners and SEMA Area Coordinators to discuss regional bio-terrorism planning.

DHSS will have 31 Regional Response Planners in place statewide by the end of December 2002 in the nine Missouri planning regions. These Regional Planners will be responsible for the development of regional plans to respond to bio-terrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and other public health threats and emergencies. The regional plans are to be completed in 2003 at which time exercises will be conducted in each planning region to test these bio-terrorism plans and procedures.

SEMA Area Coordinators will be working with the DHSS Regional Response Planners on the development of these regional bio-terrorism plans and how this information can be incorporated into local emergency operations plans.

KC EMD Mike Karl Resigns

Mike Karl, Kansas City's emergency manager, resigned effective Nov. 15 to take a job with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Oakland, CA. As a Federal Coordinating Officer, Karl will help coordinate the federal response to disasters, primarily on the West Coast, but elsewhere in the country as needed. In Kansas City, he was instrumental in pushing for an adequately equipped disaster management office and more tornado warning sirens. **Emergency Management Coordinator Tanya Allen** has been named the interim emergency manager in Kansas City.

SEMA Training Schedule Update

11/5-7/02	Public Works: Preparing For and Responding To WMD (Awareness) (TEEX)	Cape Girardeau
11/5-7/02	Effective Communications	Chesterfield
11/5/02	Damage Assessment	Nevada
11/14/02	ICS Basic for Law Enforcement	Blue Springs
11/25-26/02	Emergency Response to Terrorist Bombing	CEMA/St. Louis
12/2-3/02	Incident Command System – Intermediate	CEMA/St. Louis
12/2-4/02	Effective Communications	Raytown
12/3-5/02	Community Emergency Response Team CERT T-t-T	Cape Girardeau
12/9-11/02	Leadership and Influence	CEMA/St. Louis
12/10/02	Senior Officials WMD Workshop (Awareness) (TEEX)	SEOC/ Jeff City
12/12/02	Decision Making and Problem Solving	CEMA/St. Louis
1/7-9/03	Emergency Response to Terrorism T-t-T	Columbia
1/9-10/03	Community Mass Care	Chesterfield
1/14-16/03	Emergency Planning	Chesterfield
1/15-16/03	Incident Command System – Advanced	CEMA/St. Louis
1/21-23/03	Incident Command System/Emergency Operations System Advanced	CEMA/St. Louis
1/27/03	SEMA Trainers Conference	SEOC/Jeff City
1/29-20/03	Resource Management	SEMA/St. Louis

61 Missouri Counties Identified With Drought Problems

On October 8, 2002, the Department of Natural Resources identified 61 Missouri counties in either Phase 1 Advisory Drought Phase or Phase 2 Drought Alert Phase. Current soil conditions in the western part of Missouri are the reason for the drought status.

Missouri Counties in Phase 1 – Advisory Phase are: Adair, Benton, Camden, Carroll, Cedar, Chariton, Cooper, Dade, Dallas, Douglas, Hickory, Howard, Johnson, Lafayette, Laclede, Linn, Livingston, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan, Ozark, Pettis, Polk, Putnam, Ray, Saline, Sullivan, Taney, Webster and Wright.

Missouri Counties in Phase 2 – Drought Alert are: Andrew, Atchison, Barry, Barton, Bates, Buchanan, Caldwell, Cass, Christian, Clay, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Greene, Grundy, Harrison, Henry, Holt, Jackson, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Mercer, Newton, Nodaway, Platte, St. Clair, Stone, Vernon, and Worth.

The 2002 Missouri Drought Plan is available from the department's Geological Survey and Resource Assessment Division at Rolla. It is on the DNR website at www.dnr.state.mo.us/geology/droughtupdate.htm